



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 26, 2018

H.R. 3728 **Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce** **Efficiency and Readiness Act of 2018**

As passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on July 23, 2018

SUMMARY

H.R. 3728 would amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize several grant programs that support the education and training of the health care workforce. In 2018, the Congress appropriated \$279 million for those programs, which are administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The legislation would authorize the same amounts for those programs for each year over the 2019-2023 period, for a five year total of \$1.4 billion.

CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$1.2 billion over the 2019-2023 period, assuming appropriation of authorized amounts. The remaining amounts would be spent after 2023.

Enacting H.R. 3728 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3728 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

H.R. 3728 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 3728 is shown in the following table. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 550 (health). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2018 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated each year.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2019-
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Authorization Level	0	279	279	279	279	279	1,397
Estimated Outlays	0	131	229	271	274	274	1,179
Annual amounts may not sum to totals because of rounding.							

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

H.R. 3728 would authorize the appropriation of \$279 million per year over the 2019-2023 period for several programs that support the education and training of the health care workforce. Those annual amounts equal appropriations made for the same programs in 2018 and include:

- \$90 million for primary care and oral health care training programs. That includes \$49 million per year for grants to schools and hospitals to train clinicians, teachers, and researchers in primary care and \$41 million per year to train dentists and dental hygienists.
- \$88 million per year to recruit, train, and retain students from diverse backgrounds who are underrepresented in health professions. Those initiatives include scholarships for students and loan repayment for faculty members from diverse backgrounds.
- \$41 million per year for degree programs, field placements, and fellowships that focus on geriatrics education.
- \$38 million per year for Area Health Education Centers, which support the educational development of primary care workers.
- \$23 million per year for other workforce development initiatives.

Based on historical spending for those programs, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3728 would cost about \$1.2 billion over the 2019-2023 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3728 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2029.

MANDATES

H.R. 3728 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

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